

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 085808  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RBAKER:SM X20857  
APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE  
AF/E:RPOST  
AF/C:TBUCHANAN  
S/S: SSTEINER  
IO/HR:FCRAWFORD

-----161210Z 105458 /14

R 160055Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085808

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UG, US, CG

SUBJECT: AMIN ASKS FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH US

REF: A) KINSHASA 3442 (NOTAL); B) USUN 1083 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL B, BEING REPEATED KINSHASA AND NAIROBI, REPORTS ONGOING EFFORT BY UNSYG TO GAIN AMIN'S AGREEMENT TO UN INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP LUWUM. WE ARE NOT OVERLY SANGUINE THAT THIS EFFORT WILL RESULT IN FULL AND IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF TYPE WHICH BRITISH PROPOSED (AND WE SUPPORTED) DURING RECENTLY-CONCLUDED GENEVA SESSION OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE EFFORT IS WORTH MAKING, AND WOULD LIKE TO  
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UTILIZE MOBUTU'S REQUEST FOR FORMAL RESPONSE TO AMIN'S MESSAGE (REFTEL A) AS OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE INDIRECT SUPPORT TO UN APPROACH. TO THIS END, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO CONVEY ORALLY TO MOBUTU FOLLOWING US REACTION TO MESSAGE FROM AMIN:

2. WE CANNOT PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT THAT REOPENING OF U.S.

EMBASSY IN KAMPALA IS LIKELY DEVELOPMENT IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. AS UGANDAN GOVERNMENT IS AWARE, WE CLOSED OUR EMBASSY IN LATE 1973 DUE TO INCREASING DIFFICULTIES WE FACED IN CARRYING OUT NORMAL DIPLOMATIC OPERATIONS. THIS WAS DIFFICULT DECISION, NOT REACHED LIGHTLY, AND NOT EASY TO REVERSE IN ABSENCE OF PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE THAT SITUATION HAS CHANGED. EVENTS OF LATE FEBRUARY AND REPEATED PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY UGANDAN GOVERNMENT CALLING INTO QUESTION INTENTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES WITH RESPECT TO UGANDA DO NOT PROVIDE CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF SERIOUS INTEREST ON PART OF GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA IN A SUBSTANTIVE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS.

3. GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA MUST ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MUST BE ABLE TO CONVINCE BOTH U.S. CONGRESS AND AMERICAN PUBLIC OF THE JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY U.S. ACTION TO UPGRADE OUR RELATIONS WITH UGANDA. GIVEN CONTINUING REPORTS REACHING U.S. OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN UGANDA, WE BELIEVE THAT NEITHER CONGRESS NOR PUBLIC WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A MOVE BY OUR GOVERNMENT AT THIS TIME. SHOULD THIS SITUATION CHANGE, AS FOR EXAMPLE AS RESULT OF POSITIVE REPORTS FLOWING FROM INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION SUCH AS WAS PROPOSED AT RECENT MEETING OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IN GENEVA, ATMOSPHERE WOULD BE CONDUCTIVE FOR DISCUSSIONS OF THE STATUS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. IN MEANTIME, WE BELIEVE THAT PRESENCE OF UGANDAN MISSION IN WASHINGTON AND FRG'S REPRESENTATION OF U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERESTS IN KAMPALA PROVIDE ADEQUATE AVENUE FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Subject:** AMIN ASKS FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH US  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UG, US, CG, (AMIN DADA, IDI), (LUWUM, JANAN)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009